

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 5, wherein the mesenchymal stem cells are autologous to the hematopoietic progenitor cells.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 5, wherein the mesenchymal stem cells are allogeneic to the hematopoietic progenitor cells.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 5 further comprising separating the transformed human progenitor cells from the mesenchymal stem cells.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A method for transforming hematopoietic progenitor cells to express a protein, comprising co-culturing human hematopoietic progenitor cells with human mesenchymal stem cells that have been isolated, purified and culturally expanded from human mesoderm tissue, and transforming the human hematopoietic progenitor cells with a polynucleotide comprising exogenous genetic material encoding a protein in the presence of the isolated human mesenchymal stem cells, wherein said protein is expressed.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method for transforming hematopoietic progenitor cells to express a protein, comprising co-culturing human hematopoietic progenitor cells with human mesenchymal stem cells that have been isolated, purified and culturally expanded from a bone marrow specimen by adding the bone marrow specimen to a medium which contains factors which stimulate mesenchymal cell growth without differentiation, and transforming the human hematopoietic progenitor cells with a polynucleotide comprising exogenous genetic material encoding a protein in the presence of the isolated human mesenchymal stem cells, wherein said protein is expressed.